



State of Wisconsin  
**Department of Health and Family Services**

Jim Doyle, Governor  
Helene Nelson, Secretary

### Community Aids

|                   | FY 04 |             | FY 05 |             |
|-------------------|-------|-------------|-------|-------------|
|                   | GPR   | All Funds   | GPR   | All Funds   |
| Change in Funding |       | (1,059,500) |       | (1,059,500) |

### Description of Proposal

- Adjust Community Aids funding to reflect changes in the availability of federal funding under the Social Services Block Grant (SSBG), Child Welfare IV-B grant, and TANF-converted SSBG.
- Authorize the Department to use in Community Aids MA federal reimbursement claimed by the Department for certain out-of-home care/kinship care placement activities.
- Establish an advisory committee to develop recommendations on redesigning the state-county human/social services funding system.

### Background

- Community Aids provides funding to counties to use for social, mental health, alcohol/drug abuse and disability services. Community Aids is a combination of state GPR and federal funding. Actual federal funding to Wisconsin for two of the block grants used in Community Aids, the Social Services Block Grant (SSBG) and Child Welfare IV-B grant, is lower than projected and budgeted in the 01-03 budget.
- A small adjustment in TANF-converted SSBG funding in Community Aids is needed to comply with federal regulations concerning the treatment of TANF funding to tribes.
- The net effect of the changes proposed in the 03-05 biennial budget are that the Community Aids Basic County Allocation (BCA) will decrease slightly, by 0.22%, in CY03 compared to CY02, and remain virtually flat in CY04 and CY05.

### Rationale for Proposal

- The decrease in Community Aids funding is the result of federal actions that reduced federal funding for the Social Services Block Grant and Child Welfare IV-B grant for Wisconsin.
- Authorizing the Department to use in Community Aids MA federal reimbursement for certain out-of-home care/kinship care placement activities will help offset any further cuts by the federal government in Community Aids federal funding sources in the 03-05 biennium.
- In recognition of the importance of meeting the human and social service needs of vulnerable populations, the Administration is not proposing a cut in the state GPR funding in Community Aids as a means of addressing the state 03-05 GPR deficit.

- The state is proposing an initiative, the Medicaid Administrative Claiming initiative, that will provide additional revenue to counties to use for the same purposes as Community Aids. (See MA Administrative Claiming initiative paper.)
- As a means of developing long-term, fundamental improvements in the state/county partnership for human and social services, the Administration is supporting a county-initiated proposal to establish an advisory committee composed of state and county staff and other stakeholders to develop recommendations on redesigning the state-county human/social services funding system.